

# Police limit parking at Bay Farm

## Move to quell fears after sex assaults in Duxbury

By KENDRA JOHNSON  
The Patriot Ledger

DUXBURY — Police, selectmen and residents are taking precautions to protect the neighborhood and prevent more incidents in the Bay Farm area, where four men were arrested last week for indecent assault and battery and open and gross lewdness.

Duxbury selectmen last night agreed to restrict parking at the Bay Farm field parking lot to Duxbury and Kingston residents at the request of acting Police Chief Donald Sjostedt.

Bay Farm field is a recreation area with walking trails near the Kingston-Duxbury line. Sjostedt said police are patrolling the area every 30 minutes and are doing undercover work there.

Sjostedt said sexual predators have

moved into the area from a Route 3 rest stop in Norwell where they can no longer go into the woods because the fencing was moved up to the edge of the rest area.

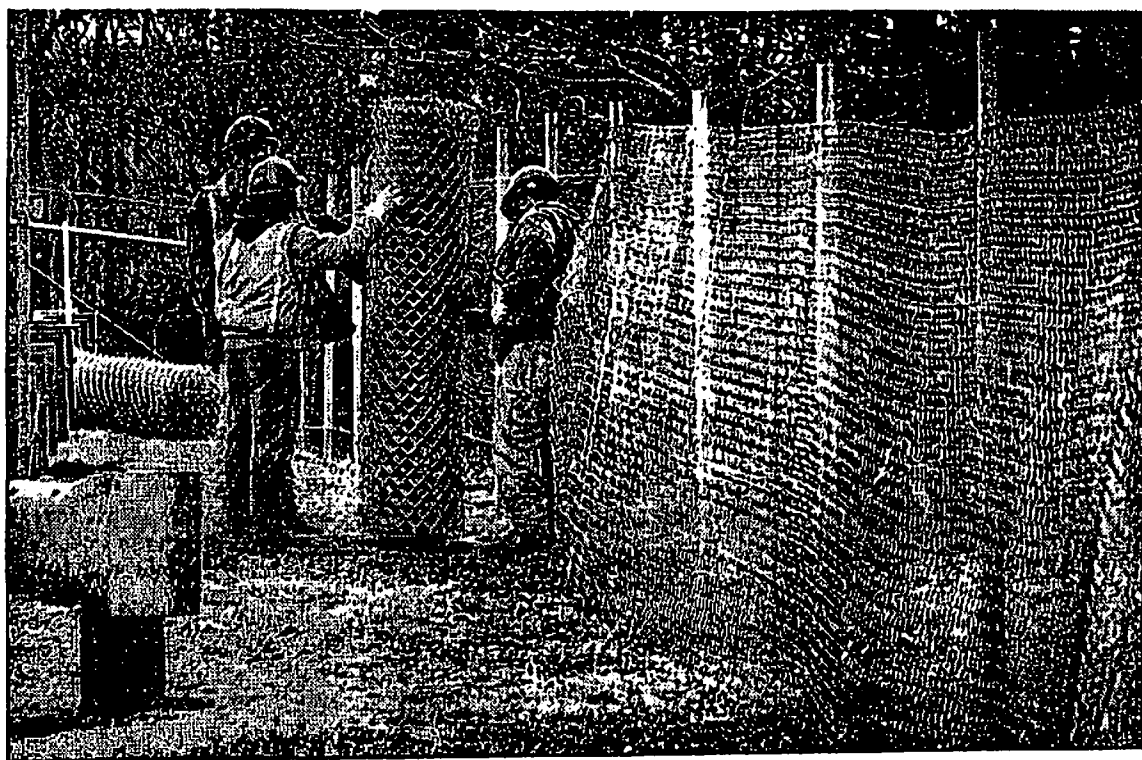
"Their one weakness is visibility," Sjostedt told selectmen last night. "These people don't want to be seen."

Sjostedt said sexual offenders do not want their families, friends or employers to know about their lewd activities. He said Kingston Police Chief Gordon Fogg has also restricted parking in the nearby River Street area.

Sjostedt said he has received many calls from concerned residents since the arrests last week.

Duxbury resident Charles O'Connor said he called police about the

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Workers put up a fence at the Route 3 southbound rest area in Norwell last month in an effort to stop illegal sexual activity there.

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recent activity and is confident they will address the issue.

"I really feel secure in the fact that the Duxbury police are aware of the situation," O'Connor said. "They're doing everything they can to protect the citizens."

O'Connor said he has stopped walking his dog by the Bay Farm field and that he has talked with his children about avoiding strangers in the area. He said he and his neighbors also make sure their children walk to the bus stop with a parent.

"I think everyone in town is a little more cautious," O'Connor said.

Kingston resident Marge LaPlant said she and her husband have not walked the area recently but that when her children were younger, she took them through the field to the boulders on Kingston Bay.

"It's a shame," she said of the recent lewd activity in the area. "We walked it in the summer, (but) I think I'd be hesitant to do it again."

Two men were arrested Thursday, one charged with open and gross lewdness, and the other with indecent assault and battery, assault and battery and resisting arrest.

Two others were arrested Friday and were arraigned in Plymouth District Court yesterday.

Joseph Parise, 58, of 768 Main St., Norwell, was

charged with assault and battery and indecent assault and battery on a person 14 or older. He pleaded not guilty and was released on his promise to return to court April 7.

Rudiger J. Rottach, 54, of Pembroke, also was charged with assault and battery and indecent assault charges.

Robert Rockstraw, 38, of 24 Deer Hill Lane, Carver, was charged with open and gross lewdness and indecent exposure. The fourth man, Keith J. Kennedy, 44, of Marshfield, was charged with open and gross lewdness and placed on six months of pretrial probation Friday.

In one instance, a suspect gave an undercover officer a polite greeting and jokingly asked whether he was a policeman. When the officer said no, the suspect exposed himself and grabbed the officer's groin, Sjostedt said.

In another, a suspect literally jumped on an undercover officer from behind as he walked down a path, police said.

"Within 30 seconds, they were accosted," Sjostedt said, adding young residents should stay away from the area. "If they would do that to a grownup, what happens if you're a 12-year-old?"

Both men were ordered to stay away from Bay Farm field. Sjostedt said there have been no new arrests regarding indecent sexual activity since Friday.

For more Duxbury news, please see Page 14.